

Trim Seminar

In February we held the first of what we hope will now be a regular and practical seminar on interior trim. This new concept came about when one of our advertisers Furniture Clinic attended an earlier seminar and gave some advice and a practical demonstration on how to restore leather seating. The results were so good (almost magical!) that the Club decided that such a topic would make a new approach to our seminars.

Over sixty members turned out to the Jaguar Visitors Centre near Birmingham on Saturday 19th February, some bringing their cars for work, others bringing items of upholstery to refurbish themselves and some, just to take in all the information with a view to carrying out work on their cars in future. The end results were quite incredible and not a single negative response came back.

Ben and Keith Staerck from Furniture Clinic came along with five of their staff and the day started with an overview of the materials used and the results that can be achieved with a film review of the work. Then the delegates split into working groups to get to grips with an expert for each group for guidance.

As well as those members working on their own upholstery, varying from a 1930s SS seat squab to a modern XK arm-rest, courtesy of our Club's Assistant General Manager, James Blackwell, we had

a complete set of XJ12 Series 2 leather upholstery, in a rather sad state of repair, to work on.

The pictures here say it all. From the appalling state of the leather when the delegates started, to the end result, the final outcome was incredible. A credit to Furniture Clinic and their training and a credit to our members who did the work on the day. Needless to say James Blackwell was well pleased with the outcome which shows what can be done, even with the worst upholstery that has been in storage for many years.

A few members opted to have work done on their cars professionally whilst at the seminar. This included a complete clean and refurbishment to a Mark 2 interior and down to the most common of upholstery ailments with modern cars, driver seat bolster scuffing. All the work was achieved with total success.

Our members learnt a lot from this exercise, so much so, that we intend to run another similar seminar either later this year or early in 2012. It is obvious there will be plenty of demand for this "hands on" seminar so when the date is released, get your booking in quickly.

Thanks again to Ben and the Furniture Clinic team for their work on the day. We don't have the space this month to cover all the details of this seminar so next month we will have a pictorial review of the work carried out and watch out for the next seminar on this subject we intend to run next winter.

New Club Seminars

A full report on the latest (X-350) seminar will appear in the May issue, suffice to say at this point that it was a great success with a record turnout. This model is really coming into its own with many members realizing what excellent value for money and what a superb car they are.

As mentioned last month we are now planning for our next phase of winter/spring seminars over 2011/2012. Certainly we will be covering the XJ40 saloons, X-308 saloons and the V12 engine with another Trim seminar as well. More as soon as dates and plans are finalized.

National Drive it Day – 17th April

A final reminder because it's this month. Contact your local Region to find out what they are doing and go along for an enjoyable "start-of-the-season" Jaguar get-together.



The before – James Blackwell's XJ12 trim that was the guinea pig for our Trim Seminar last month. Compare these pictures with...

...the final result, much of which was carried out by the members participating in the seminar. More on this next month.